

MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Monday, November 19, 2018

In Attendance for SWCC: Mr. Ray Adams, SWCC Chair; Mr. Scotty Parsons; Mr. Danny Shipley; Mr. Sam Hughes; Mr. Don Minton; Mr. Jeff Rice; Mr. Billy Doolin; and Ms. Denise Hoffman.

Others Present: Ms. Paulette Akers, Division of Conservation, Director; Ms. Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation, Assistant Director; Ms. Kayleigh Evans, Kentucky Association of Conservation District Employees, President; Ms. Brunilda Velez, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Ms. Crystal Renfro, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts, Executive Director; Mr. Steve Coleman, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts; Mr. Bill McCloskey, GOAP; Ms. Stefanie Osterman, GOAP; Mr. James Wright, Division of Forestry; Mr. Keith Reed, NRCS; Sec. Charles Snively, EEC; Mr. John Small, Commissioner DNR; and Mr. Jeff Gravitt, Division of Conservation.

Quorum was met.

Meeting Called to Order – 9:00 AM by Mr. Ray Adams, Chairman.

SWCC Minutes from the September 17, 2018 Meeting - Motion to approve minutes with corrections was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons and was seconded by Mr. Jeff Rice. **Motion carried.**

Swearing in of members - Mr. Ray Adams turned the floor over to Ms. Johnna McHugh for the swearing in process of Mr. Billy Doolin. Ms. Johnna McHugh spoke the oath of office and Mr. Billy Doolin accepted.

Equipment Report - Ms. Johnna McHugh presented the report with copies distributed.

- **Statement of Operations** –Ms. Johnna McHugh gave an overview of the year to date equipment fund report. Mr. Scotty Parsons made the motion to approve this report. Mr. Don Minton seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**
- **Approval of Equipment Loan Requests** -
 1. The Nelson County Conservation District is requesting a loan for a Knight PS242 Manure Spreader. Cost of equipment would be \$25,000.00. No trade-in. The district will be placing 1/3 down in cash at \$8,500.00. The district is

requesting a loan amount of \$16,500.00. The length of loan is for 4 years. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Jeff Rice and was seconded by Mr. Scotty Parsons. **Motion carried.**

2. The Calloway County Conservation District is requesting a loan for a 13,000 lb Telehandler. Cost of equipment would be \$60,000.00. No trade-in. The district is requesting a loan amount of \$40,000.00. The length of loan will be 4 years. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Sam Hughes and was seconded by Mr. Don Minton. **Motion carried.**
3. The Taylor County Conservation District is requesting a loan for a Caterpillar 259D. Cost of equipment would be \$67,400.00. No trade-in. The district will be placing 1/3 down in cash at \$22,466.00. The district is requesting a loan amount of \$44,933.00. Length of loan is for 7 years. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Sam Hughes and was seconded by Mr. Don Minton. **Motion carried.**
4. The Green County Conservation District is requesting a loan for a Gehl RT210 loader. Cost of equipment would be \$41,000.00. No trade-in. The district will be placing 1/3 down in cash at \$213,530.00. The district is requesting a loan amount of \$27,470.00. The length of loan will be 7 years. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Danny Shipley and was seconded by Mr. Don Minton. **Motion carried.**

- **Approval of Infrastructure Loan Request.** No approvals were requested.

Vacancy Petitions for Conservation District Supervisor's Appointments - Ms. Johnna McHugh presented the requests.

Caldwell County –

- Chase Roberts to serve the unexpired term of Wendell Roberts (2020)

Graves County –

- Cynthia Elder to serve the unexpired term of Brad Mathis (2020)

Lawrence County –

- Jan Norris to serve the unexpired term of Ruth Ann Smith (2020)
- David McGuire to serve the unexpired term of Keith Moore (2020)

Todd County

- Nicholas Hurt to serve the unexpired term of Kent Smith (2020)

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons and was seconded by Mr. Billy Doolin. Motion carried.

Incentive Per Diem –

Gallatin County

- Vic Satchwell – Area 5 meeting and 12 ten minute trainings
- Joe Lowe – Area 5 meeting and 12 ten minute trainings
- Penny Tinch – Area 5 meeting, 11 ten minute trainings
- Gary Easton – Area 5 meeting, 10 ten minute trainings
- Cindy Sullivan – Area 5 meeting, 11 ten minute trainings
- Joe Smith – Area 5 meeting and 11 ten minute trainings
- Ron Courtney – Area 5 meeting and 12 ten minute trainings

McCracken County

- Daniel Phelps – Area 1 meeting and 8 ten minute trainings

Motion to approve qualifying supervisors was made by Mr. Danny Shipley and was seconded by Mr. Jeff Rice. (Supervisors not qualifying are indicated with an asterisk) **Motion carried**

Agriculture District Program - Ms. McHugh presented the report with copies distributed. Five (5) new petitions were presented to the Commission for consideration for a total of 2,529.44 acres.

1. McCracken County (Petition No. 073-05(A2) – 546.90 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons and was seconded by Mr. Danny Shipley. **Motion carried.**
2. Meade County (Petition No. 082-03 – 761.89 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Sam Hughes and was seconded by Mr. Don Minton. **Motion carried.**
3. Meade County (Petition No. 082-04) – 1,063.77 acres. Motion to approve was made by Ms. Denise Hoffman and was seconded by Mr. Jeff Rice. **Motion carried.**
4. Meade County (Petition No. 082-05) – 2,783.16 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Sam Hughes and was seconded by Mr. Billy Doolin. **Motion carried**
5. Nelson County (Petition No. 090-10 A-2) – 1,005.99 acres. Motion to approve was made by Ms. Denise Hoffman and was seconded by Mr. Don Minton. **Motion carried.**

Nine (9) new agricultural districts have been submitted to the commission for five-year recertification for a total of 5,136.97 acres.

COUNTY	PETITION NO.	ACRES
Boone	080-10	412.83
Bullitt	015-08	132.69
Fleming	035-29	569.18
Franklin	037-01	1,474.12
Knox	061-04	180.80
Lincoln	069-01	422.00
Madison	076-02	1,474.12
Madison	076-05	412.59
Montgomery	087-03	392.00

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons and was seconded by Mr. Danny Shipley.

Motion carried.

Old Business – Discussed Tooke Crossing and gave updated information to the board.

- Overview of how the surroundings could impact the Tooke Crossing
- Possible solutions
 - Back fill with large rock.
 - NRCS Specifications used.
 - Present owner with approved plans and discussed different types of funding available.

New Business –

- Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy – Mr. Bill McCloskey discussed the following with the board:
 - Mr. Bill McCloskey has been with the Governor Office of Agriculture for past 17 years.
 - Decrease in Tobacco Funds.
 - Master Settlement Agreement, funds from Tobacco Companies.
 - 2018 County Agriculture Investment Program (CAIP).
- Cost Share Regulation discussion –

- Ms. Paulette Akers opened the discussion by revisiting the proposed changes to the statutes that had no action at the meeting in September –
 - KRS 146.115 - Increasing the administration fee from 5% to 10% for state cost share – each supervisor spoke that they did not wish it to be increased and no vote was taken
 - KRS 262.870 – Change the number of days between meetings from 60 to 100. KRS 262.096 – Delete this statute calling for budgetary information. The SWCC has no budget and so this statute is obsolete.
 - Ms. Denise Hoffman made a motion to approve change in meeting frequency and repeal budget statute. Seconded by Mr. Jeff Rice. **Motion carried.**
- Ms. Paulette Akers distributed 416 KAR 1:010 regarding the state cost share program. Ms. Akers discussed possible changes to the regulation including –
 - Increasing the cost share caps of \$7,500 per individual (\$20,000 for animal waste)
 - Lowering the amount of required set aside in the contingency fund from 10% to 5%. 10% of these funds have never been used in a year.
 - Change the timeline for hearing an appeal from 60 days to 100 days.
 - There was no discussion and no motions were made.
- Meeting Dates for 2019 –
 - February 12th
 - Motion to hold meeting outside of regulations was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons and was seconded by Mr. Don Minton. **Motion carried.**
 - April 15th
 - July 7th
 - September 16th
 - November 18th

Motion to approve meeting dates for 2019 was made by Ms. Denise Hoffman and was seconded by Mr. Scotty Parsons. **Motion carried.**

- Ag Water Quality Authority nominations – Ms. Paulette Akers discussed the following:
 - Farmers-at-Large has openings
 - Steve Coleman KACD
 - Darren Luttrell
 - Jon Bednarski
 - Darren Rice
 - Eric Heard

Division of Conservation – Ms. Paulette Akers discussed the following with the board:

- Some individuals are asking for SCS extensions beyond the 2 years. Many had to wait for NRCS plans. Mr. Scotty Parsons made a motion to approve extensions to July 31, 2019 and was seconded by Mr. Jeff Rice. **Motion carried.**
- Other individuals in multiple counties are asking for extensions due to weather issues since 2018 has been very wet year. Mr. Scotty Parsons made a motion to approve extensions to July 31, 2019 and was seconded by Mr. Sam Hughes. **Motion carried.**
- Environment Grants are open for application. An amount of \$670,000.00 is set aside, down \$100,000.00 from last year. Mr. Danny Shipley made a motion to approve up to \$670,000 in grants and was seconded by Ms. Denise Hoffman. **Motion carried.**

Agency Reports

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Ms. Brunilda Velez discussed the following with the board:
 - Ms. Brunilda Velez will be finishing up here in Kentucky in the next couple weeks.
 - Mr. Greg Stone will be coming aboard January 20th as new NRCS State Conservationist
 - Update on EQIP numbers
 - Stewardship Program update.
- **Farm Service Agency** – Not attended.
- **Kentucky Department for Natural Resources** – Not attended.
- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture** – Not attended.
- **University of Kentucky, CAFE** – Not attended.
- **Division of Forestry**- Mr. James Wright informed the board of the following:
 - Forestry re-organization
 - Opening older offices.
 - Additional funding for agency by fighting out of stat fires and other emergencies.
 - Visit Capitol Hill in DC
- **University of Kentucky** – Not attended
- **KACD** – No update given.
- **KACDE** – Ms. Kayleigh Evans updated the board about these items:
 - Art and Writing T-Shirt process
 - 90,000 tabloids have been handed out.

Next Board Meeting – February 12th, 2019 at 9:00am at the 300 Sower Building, Frankfort KY

Mr. Ray Adams was not re-elected and will step down as Chairman of the SWCC. Mr. Scotty Parsons was nominated as Chairman. Mr. Jeff Rice made a motion to approve and was seconded by Ms. Denise Hoffman. **Motion carried.** Mr. Jeff Rice was nominated as Vice Chairman of the SWCC. Mr. Scotty Parsons made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Sam Hughes. **Motion carried.**

Adjourned - Mr. Danny Shipley made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Scotty Parsons. **Motion carried**